St Louis Novbr 21st 1874

Dr G. Engelman

Dear Sir!

Cheerfully recognizing your authority we shall adopt your classification in our new edition of the Bushberg Catalogue (Description of Am. Grape Vines), but beg leave to submit a few questions that we may do it more understandingly.

Our Catalogue is widely distributed among Grape growers and thus - whatever its defects may be - it is a valuable channel for such information. We mention this only for the purpose of asking your permission to use your article on that subject (Riley's Entomological Report 1874) and whatever information you may give us in addition thereto, in our Catalogue. We are willing to submit to you the proofs for amendment or corrections.

Hoping that you will favor us with your valuable instructions we recommend the following to your kind consideration

and remain

Most Respectfully yours

L. Bush & Son & Meissner.

I. While we shall now refer the Clinton, Taylor Bullit and Varieties clearly belonging to this group - to V Riparia (instead of Cordifolia) we beg to ask whether the popular names of Winter grape, Frost Grape or Chickengrape or either of these should also no more be applied to them?

These names have so often and long been used and, you know, it is far more difficult to discard or change popular names than those used by scientists only; besides, if we are not mistaken, the wild grapes brought to market in St Louis in July (to which you allude under Riparia) are called sometimes Chickengrape and sometimes (though erroneously) Summer grapes.

P. J. Berckmans (of Augusta, Georgia) a Pomologist and Botanist of some repute (probably unmerited) in his last Catalogue "Vignes americaines" printed at Montpellier, France, 1874 — places the Clinton under V. Cordifolia (Frost Grape) and the Taylor or Bullit under V Riparia (River-grape) Probably there is no sufficient justification for such separate classification; but we must admit that the Clinton and those Var. closely resembling it ripen fully or become sweet

MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN
GEORGE ENGELMANN PAPERS

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GEORGE ENGELMANN HERBARIUM
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Mr. Charles Mohr (Auburn, Ala.) has sent to this office a collection of Solanum from the Gulf States, which includes a number of species not represented in the Engelmann Herbarium. Will you please examine these specimens and if you find any species not represented in the Herbarium, please send us duplicate specimens?

Thanking you in advance for this favor, I am

Yours very truly,

Director.

Dr. B. Shimpers
Chapel Hill, N.C.

become sweet only after frost; hence the name of Frost grape is apparently appropriate and significant for the Clinton family and does not apply in this sense to Taylor.
On the other hand we beg leave to mention that while you say: "Some species (Vitis Riparia) have all the leaves more or less lobed" — we find the Clinton, both young as well as matured plants, have entire, not lobed leaves, — they are exactly as you describe Vitis Cordifolia, namely:
"heartshaped, mostly entire or very slightly tri-lobed on the edges, &c"

II We beg to submit to you our reasons why the Delaware cannot be referable to this species (V Riparia) nor to Aestivalis, but why we still believe it to be a cross by natural hybridization, between Labrusca and Aestivalis. Many seedlings have been raised from Delaware by different parties, in wide appart sections of this country, without knowing of each other or of the results of their respective experiments — and all found that their Delaware seedlings had a foxy taste, resembling more or less some known varieties of the Labrusca family; they were consequently inferior to their parent and not disseminated.
If this result were corroborated only by two or three experiments we might be inclined to doubt whether their supposed Delaware seedlings were not produced from some other seed; such mistakes occur easily. But the corroborative testimony is so very abundant and the more convincing as it is quite unintentional, not one of these experiments having been made with any intention to prove or disprove to which species the Delaware belongs. Moreover we have examined hundred of Delaware vines and found them very irregular in the intermission of tendrils, often three and even four leaves having each a tendril opposite it, in succession; also bearing often three bunches of grapes upon the same spur or cane.
Finally, we find that the Riparia and its cultivated varieties root most easily from cuttings, almost like willows, the Aestivalis, on the contrary — either on account of a much harder wood or a tougher bark, do not root easily from cuttings; only by splitting the bark, softening the wood by moisture and heat, will these take roots.
Every Propagator will testify that the Delaware possesses in this respect all the characteristics of the Aestivalis and none of the Cordifolia or Riparia.
This leads us to another point:

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Il me faut te raconter ce dîner avec Proust et Boylesve dont je t'ai parlé. Mme Lemaire avait tenu à me présenter elle-même à ces deux écrivains célèbres, mes rares et précieux admirateurs. Proust m'a complimentée sur mes articles du Figaro, mais il m'a dit qu'il préférait mes vers. Il a ajouté qu'il aimait mes livres, mais qu'il ne les avait pas lus, car il ne lit jamais les livres de ses amis, pour ne pas être influencé par eux. Il a dit aussi qu'il ne lisait pas les journaux, mais qu'il se faisait lire tous les articles qui le concernaient. Il a ajouté qu'il ne pouvait pas supporter la lumière, qu'il ne sortait que la nuit, qu'il ne mangeait que des choses blanches, qu'il ne buvait que de l'eau de Vichy, qu'il ne pouvait pas supporter le bruit, qu'il ne pouvait pas dormir sans avoir fait tirer autour de son lit, dans sa chambre, des rideaux épais, et

III Most of us practical grape growers, including propagators, have paid no attention to the distinctive characters found in the seed; we did not know it (the only distinctive differences noticed were: small or large, few or many seeds). In order to do better hereafter it would be desirable to illustrate your remarks by figures. We would cheerfully bear the expense of having good Woodcuts made if you could furnish the drawings (somewhat magnified).

But while we confess our ignorance and neglect with regard to the seeds – we believe to have noticed distinctive and permanent characters in the wood, pith and bark), which seem to have been overlooked by you Botanists, except in so far that you say V. Vulpina has "firmly adhering bark" different from all other species to which you ascribe "a loose shreddy bark". We beg to submit that there is also a marked difference between the other three species, of which we have cultivated Varieties in this respect. (The Alvey is the only variety heretofore assigned to Aestivalis which grows easily from cuttings, about as easily as Vinifera of which it has also some other habits and characteristics, and we have no doubt that a careful sorting of its origin would establish its parentage in a different species).

We look to you, the man of science and research, to establish and describe the distinctive characteristics of our different species – in wood, pith, bark, probably also in the root, and difficult as this may be, we feel that it would be also of great practical usefulness!

If we ask too much – forgive! considering that we ask it for the common good – in search for light and truth only.

With highest regards

yours Truly

Isidor Bush

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Rec Aug 5 '79 Ans 6

AMERICAN
Grape Vines
A SPECIALTY.

BUSHBERG GRAPE NURSERIES,

VINEYARDS AND ORCHARD

OF

BUSH & SON & MEISSNER,

City Office, Isidor Bush & Co., St. Louis, Mo.

DEALERS IN NATIVE WINES EXCLUSIVELY.

S. E. COR. FOURTH AND ELM STREETS.

Bushberg, Jefferson Co., Mo. Aug 30 1879

Dr. Geo. Engelman - St Louis.

Dear Sir

I am called upon to report at the next session of the Am. Pomological Society on the "Grape Rot". a letter on this subject addressed by me two years ago to that Society and to the U. S. Comr of Agriculture, calling attention to the importance of investigating it, by men skilled in microscopy & chemistry, and to find out its extent in different locations, soils, varieties &c. may have led to the call. But unfortunately I feel myself unable to report any progress in knowledge of the disease, its causes, means of prevention or cure.

Desiring to gather, however, what little may be known or may have been suggested by eminent scientific men on this and somewhat similar diseases in Europe - Anthracnose, Erasmus, Vayolo, picchiola, (Sphaceloma ampelinum, - Phoma uvicola) may I not ask you, dear Dr., with your most valuable notes on this subject?.

The U.S. Comr of agriculture seems to have done nothing except to refer it to Mr McMurtrie, the Chemist & Chief, who in the U.S. Agr. Report 1877 (Pages 81–89) wrote "on the Conditions in nature which may influence or tend to the production of Mildew and rot," without proper investigation or study of the subject. His theories: "that rot can injuriously affect plants only when they are in a debilitated condition" and that: "Exhaustion of the soil has a strong influence upon this matter" are disproven by the facts that the fruit on the most vigorous vines are often worse affected than weaker ones of the same variety and on the same soil; -

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and that grapes grown on new soil, bearing their first or second fruit, are no less affected than those in old Vineyards. In the "variations of temperature" may doubtless be found one of the main causes of both diseases, mildew and rot. But how explain that these sudden changes of temperature produce in some seasons rot and no mildew, in others mildew and no rot? Mr McMurtrie evidently knows very little about Rot and it is scarcely mentioned by him except in the "Heading" of his report. — There is nothing in it I could embody in my report. I would have to refer to your description of rot made 18 years ago in the "Proceedings of St Louis Academy" of Sept 16. 1861. — As you have no doubt to add thereto from later observations, I wish you would kindly give me the opportunity to publish the same with my report to the Am. Pomol. Society.

If you consent, as I hope you will, please favor me with a line to let me know whether and I may call for it in a week, or so

and oblige by this additional favor

Yours truly

& most Respectfully

Sidor Rusch

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Rec Nov 8th
Ans

GRAPE VINES OUR SPECIALTY.

BUSHBERG GRAPE NURSERIES,

VINEYARDS AND ORCHARD

—OF—

BUSH & SON & MEISSNER,

CITY OFFICE, ISIDOR BUSH & CO., ST. LOUIS, MO.

NO. 314 ELM STREET, S. E. COR. FOURTH,

Bushberg. Jefferson Co., Mo. Nov 7' 1882

Dr Geo Engelman

Sehr geehrter Herr!

Heilstehend überreiche ich Ihnen Probe Abdruck des Holzschnitts d. Herrsch. Baumschulen &c, welche Sie gütigst, für die neue Ausgabe unseres Catalogue's, gemacht haben wollten. Wenn wir lange wärst gut wird, sollten die Xilographien ausgezeichnet gut sein. Wir hoffen nun in einem Monat, jedenfalls eher Nachricht, den Druck zu erhalten und erbitten uns Ihr Manuscript. Wir können ohne Unbescheidenheit Ihnen die Versicherung geben, dass Ihr Beitrag in keinem andern Organ eine so grosse Verbreitung, und Anerkennung aller für den Weinbau sich Interessirenden, finden könnte; und da Ihr Wunsch dabei lediglich der ist zu nützen, indem Sie die Wissenschaft fördern & verbreiten,—

Hoffen wir, dass Sie uns recht viel vom Schatze Ihres Wissens in Bezug auf die Classification & Charakteristik der Reben — und vielleicht auch etwas über deren Krankheiten, so wie über Behandlung — bieten werden.

Mit besonderer Hochachtung

freundschaftlich ergebenst

Isidor Bush

für Bush & Son & Meissner

Let me know when I may call
and I shall be glad to do so
Isidor B.

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Rusbberg Grape Nurseries

Dr. Geo. Engelman

Highly honored Sir!

Enclosed I am sending you a proof-copy of a woodcut of the various seed kernels, which you kindly wanted made for the new edition of our catalogue. When what lasts long is good, the wood-engravings should be excellent. We hope in a month, at all events before New Year, to start printing and ask for your manuscript. We can without being presumptuous give you the assurance, that your contribution could find so large a distribution and recognition of all those interested in viniculture, in no other organ; and that your wish principally is to be of use, in that you further and disseminate science. —

We hope that you will supply us with very much of the wealth of your knowledge in regard to the classification and characteristics of the vines — and perhaps also something about their fungus diseases, as also about hybridization.

With special esteem

Sincerely,

Isidor Bush

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